

Bewdley

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13th August, 1945.

To the Town Council of Bewdley.

Gentlemen,

My report for the year 1944 is confined to necessary statistics, and matters which have affected the public health during the year.

Vital Statistics. Registrar General as 4,474. The population of the Borough is estimated by the

There were 31 deaths registered in the Borough during the year. There were 19 inward, and 3 outward transfers, giving the number of deaths belonging to the Borough as 47. This gives the very satisfactory death rate of 10.5 per 1,000 of the population.

Of the deaths registered there were -

Under 1 year of age	4
Between 1 year & 5 years	None
Between 5 years & 15 years	None
Between 15 years & 25 years	2
Between 25 years & 65 years	13
Over 65	28
	<hr/> 47 <hr/>

There were 53 births registered in the Borough, and 28 inward transfers, giving a total of 81 belonging to the Borough, which gives a birthrate of 17.1 per 1,000 of the population.

There were 4 deaths of children under 1 year of age, giving a rate of 49.3 per 1,000 children born.

Infectious Diseases. There was a considerable epidemic of Measles and Whooping Cough, which lasted through the greater part of the year, 73 cases of the former and 65 of the latter disease being notified.

There were also notified -

- 8 cases of Pneumonia
- 1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia
- 4 cases of Scarlet Fever, all of which were isolated at home.
- 1 case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum
- 2 cases of Erysipelas
- 2 cases of Diphtheria, both of which were removed to the Isolation Hospital, and recovered.

There was no death from any form of notifiable infectious disease during the year.

During the year 48 children under 5 years of age, and 12 over 5 and under 15 years were immunised against Diphtheria.

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Infectious  
Diseases.  
(continued)

The approximate number of children in the Borough at 31st December, 1944 is estimated at -

Under 5 years 395  
Between 5 & 15 years 714

I estimate that the number of children in the district who have been immunized is -

Under 5 years 64.33 per cent  
Between 5 & 15 years 88.25 per cent

Both the children notified as having Diphtheria had been immunized, but only one was confirmed by bacteriological examination. Both were removed to the Isolation Hospital and recovered.

These are the first cases of Diphtheria which have been notified in the District since the first immunisation campaign in 1939.

There were 7 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year. There was no death from this disease.

Water.

The water supply to the District is very satisfactory both in quality and quantity. It is regularly analysed. A very large proportion of the dwelling houses have their own water supply, but in a few instances a stand-pipe supplies two or more houses.

Sewerage.

The laying of the new sewers has now been completed, though they do not serve quite the whole of the Borough. It is to be hoped that, in all cases where it is possible, water closets will be substituted for existing middens and pan closets, which are an abomination in any built up area.

I remain, Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

U.W.N. Miles.

Medical Officer of Health.